

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 06937 081530Z

60

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /075 W

----- 120506

R 081436Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3373

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 6937

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG

SUBJECT: LEAK OF THE ROSENNE MEMORANDUM

REF: TEL AVIV 6782

1. ISRAELI MEDIA CONTINUES TO REPORT AND COMMENT ON THE LEAK OF THE ROSENNE MEMORANDUM REGARDING ISRAEL'S POSITION IN THE GULF OF SUEZ DRILLING DISPUTE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY RESPECTED MILITARY CORRESPONDENT ZEEV SCHIFF APPEARED ON PAGE ONE OF HAARETZ OCTOBER 8 UNDER THE CAPTION "THREE SENIOR DEFENSE OFFICIALS REFUSE POLYGRAPH TEST."

2. BEGIN TEXT: THREE TOP MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OFFICIALS HAVE REFUSED TO TAKE A POLYGRAPH TEST OVER THE ROSENNE MEMORANDUM LEAK: PERES' CHIEF OF CABINET HAIM ISRAELI, HIS MILITARY SECRETARY ARYE BROWN AND HIS POLITICAL ADVISER ASHER BEN-NATHAN. IN ADDITION, GENERAL TAL (PERES' PERSONAL ASSISTANT) AND DIRECTOR GENERAL SUSSMAN WERE EXCUSED FROM THE TEST AFTER STATING THAT THEY HAD NOT SEEN THE MEMORANDUM, THOUGH THEY WERE ON THE DISTRIBUTION LIST. TAL'S AND SUSSMAN'S SECRETARIES AND THE MINISTRY'S LEGAL ADVISER URIEL GORNEY HAVE AGREED TO TAKE THE TEST.

3. POLICE INVESTIGATION BRANCH CHIEF KADMI FIRST APPROACHED
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 06937 081530Z

GORNEY ABOUT INVESTIGATING SENIOR DEFENSE OFFICIALS. GORNEY

REFERRED HIM TO THE MINISTER AND RECEIVED BALNKET PERMISSION TO INVESTIGATE ALL MINISTRY OFFICIALS WITHOUT CHECKING WITH THE MINISTER. KADMI THEN SPOKE WITH SEVERAL TOP OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY. TAL AND SUSSMAN SAID THEY HAD NOT SEEN THE MEMORANDUM AND NO POLYGRAPH TEST WAS SUGGESTED FOR THEM. ALL OTHERS, INCLUDING TAL'S AND SUSSMAN'S SECRETARIES, WERE ASKED TO TAKE THE TEST.

4. THE REASONS THE THREE GAVE FOR THEIR REFUSAL WAS THAT THEY WERE PREPARED TO TESTIFY UNDER OATH BUT OBJECTED TO THE POLYGRAPH PROCEDURE AND WOULD SUBMIT TO IT ONLY IF EVERYONE WHO HAD SEEN THE MEMORANDUM, STARTING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, WOULD DO SO; THEY WERE HANDLING THE MOST SECRET MATTERS CONTINUALLY AND IF THEY WERE NOT TRUSTED, THEY SHOULD BE DISMISSED AND NOT SUBJECTED TO SUCH DISREPUTABLE GAMES AS POLYGRAPH TESTS. THERE WERE ALSO HINTS THAT THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF THE INVESTIGATION WAS TO BRING THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE INTO DISREPUTE. END TEXT

5. COMMENT: WHETHER IT WAS THE PURPOSE OF THE INVESTIGATION, AS INDICATED BY SCHIEFF, "YET THE MEDIA REPORTING OF THIS SUBJECT OVER THE PAST TEN DAYS HAS CLEARLY POINTED AN ACCUSING FINGER AT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. EARLIER COMMENTS ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THE MEMORANDUM INDICATED THAT ROSENNE'S VIEWS WOULD SUPPORT PERES' POSITION THAT THE DRILLING DISPUTE SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED DIRECTLY WITH EGYPT. SUCH COMMENTS, COUPLED WITH THE REFUSAL OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OFFICIALS TO TAKE THE TEST, HAVE LED MANY ISRAELIS TO SUSPECT THAT THE LEAK DID INDEED INVOLVE THAT MINISTRY.
TOON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, NEWS LEAKS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TELAV06937
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760381-0313
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761065/aaaacerz.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TEL AVIV 6782
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hackerp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2004 by DuboseBM>; APPROVED <07 JAN 2005 by hackerp0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEAK OF THE ROSENNE MEMORANDUM
TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006